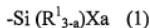


REMARKS

The present invention relates to a curable composition which comprises an organic polymer (A) containing reactive silyl groups represented by the general formula (1) given below wherein a is 3 and an organic polymer (B) containing an average of 0.5 to 1.5 reactive silyl groups represented by the general formula (1) given below per molecule.



In Formula (1), R^1 represents an alkyl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aryl group containing 6 to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group containing 7 to 20 carbon atoms or a triorganosiloxy group represented by $(\text{R}')_3\text{SiO}-$ (in which the three R' groups may be the same or different and each represents a monovalent hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms) and, when there are two or more R^1 groups, they may be the same or different, and X represents a hydroxyl group or a hydrolysable group and, when there are two or more X groups, they may be the same or different, and a represents 1, 2 or 3.

In the present Amendment the specification has been amended to improve the grammatical context. Regarding the term ARONIX, it is a brand name for a line of acrylic monomers and oligomers marketed by Toagosei Co., Ltd. (see www.toagosei.co.jp). The claims have been amended by the addition of new claims 21-23 support is found, e.g. in claim 10 and Examples 1-12, in Examples 1-8 and 10-12, and in Examples 1-3, 5, 6, 8 and 10-12, respectively.

In general, cured products obtained from an organic polymer having reactive silyl groups containing three hydrolysable groups per silicon atom tend to be very fragile and low in extensibility. Further, when the molecular weight is increased to secure the extensibility, the

problem of viscosity increase arises. Thus, it has been earnestly desired that the cured products derived from an organic polymer having reactive silyl groups containing three hydrolysable groups per silicon atom be improved in mechanical physical properties and reduced in viscosity as described, e.g., at page 1, line 35 - page 2, line 10 of the specification (see paragraphs [0005] and [0006] of U.S. Published Appln. No. US 2007-0173620-A1).

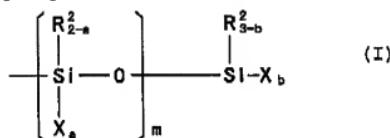
Since the curable composition of the present invention employs a combination of the organic polymer (A) having a reactive silyl groups of a specific structure and the organic polymer (B) having a reactive silyl groups of a specific structure, the curable composition of the present invention is a reactive silyl group-containing room temperature curable composition which can give cured products having good recovery, durability and creep resistance, and the mechanical physical properties of which can be adjusted so as to be adequate for use as a sealing material or adhesive, and furthermore, which is low in viscosity and good in workability.

Moreover, it is clear from the result of Examples and Comparative Examples that the curable composition of the present invention provides the above-mentioned effect (see Tables 1 to 4 at pages 62 and 60 of the specification (corresponding to paragraphs [0189] to [0191] of the published application)).

Therefore, the present invention successfully overcomes disadvantages resulting from the organic polymer (A) containing a reactive silyl groups represented by the formula (1) wherein a is 3, by using a specific organic polymer (B) in combination with the polymer (A).

Further, it is clear from the result of Examples and Comparative Examples that organic polymer (A) having three hydrolysable groups bounded to a silicon atom in the reactive silyl groups represented by the general formula (I) is more desirable than organic polymer (A) having two hydrolysable groups bounded to a silicon atom in the reactive silyl groups represented by the general formula (I) in order to provide the above-mentioned effect.

On the other hand, it is disclosed in U.S. '700 (US Patent No. 4,983,700) that the curable polymer composition comprises oxyalkylene base polymer (A) having a silicon-containing reactive groups represented by the general formula (I) given below,



and the oxyalkylene base polymer (A) may be used independently or a mixture of two or more of them.

Moreover, in the oxyalkylene base polymer (A) disclosed in U.S. '700, the number of hydrolysable groups bounded to a silicon atom is not particular limited.

However, in U.S. '700, all of the oxyalkylene base polymer (A) used in the Examples has two hydrolysable groups bounded to a silicon atom.

Therefore, U.S. '700 does not teach or suggest the curable polymer composition that is able to overcome disadvantages derived from the organic polymer (A) containing a reactive silyl groups represented by the formula (1) wherein a is 3.

Particularly, U.S. '700 does not teach or suggest that cured products derived from the curable polymer composition have good recovery, durability and creep resistance, when the curable polymer composition comprises the organic polymer (A) containing reactive silyl groups represented by the general formula (1) wherein a is 3 and the organic polymer (B) contains an average of 0.5 to 1.5 reactive silyl groups represented by the general formula (1) per molecule.

Therefore, the subject matter of the present is neither taught nor suggested by U.S. '700.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby earnestly solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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